By Frances Fuller BEIRUT, Lebanon (BP)—A year after Israel invaded Lebanon the second of heavy guns still reverberates through the hills south-

Southern Baptist missionaries, along with Lebanese Baptists, feel they have spent the year on a roller coaster, traveling at high speed from the heights of hope and joy into sudden pits of disappointment and fear.

Casualty figures, like lost opportunities, are hard on the consciences of missionaries. One

missionary says, "I don't have enough tears. The blood of those who died without Christ cries out in judgment against any apathy we had in the past."

Last year, when the Lebanese army took west Beirut, supported by troops from the Un-ited States, France and Italy, a kind of euphoria broke out. People felt that after seven years of bloodshed, the war finally was

Disillusionment came early. In Tripoli, to

the north, fighting broke out between pro-and anti-Syrian forces. Phalangist militiamen moved behind the Israeli army into the Shouf Mountains, a Druse area with many "Christ-

ian" villages, and fighting ensued.

In Beirut, car bombs shattered the calm.
The international forces were attacked.

When a powerful explosion destroyed a large part of the American embassy, almost everyone, it seemed, lost a relative or a friend or at least a measure of faith that anyone was safe. Sandbags reappeared on the sidewalks.

Then agreement was announced between Israel and Lebanon. Within the hour, war

exploded again in the mountains. Meanwhile, a kind of social chaos has pre-vailed. Because of official efforts to eject destructive illegal aliens, thousand of people loyal to Lebanon who have been living in the country for years-some all their liveswithout citizenship suddenly needed proper

The polarization of religious communities

that took place during the long years of war has produced apparently insoluble problems for many evangelical convents. One couple, though both are now Christians, come from Palestinian and Druse backgrounds and seem to be in the wrong place wherever they go. Equally alienated are Palestinians who did not fight. They have no community and no rights

Personnel of the Baptist mission have seen doors to ministry open, but generally have been unable to claim the opportunities.

Lebanese from the south began returning to

their homes and farms, long in a battle zone.
They need building material and spiritual help; but the mission has heavy, long-term responsibilities and is not geared for emergencies.

Pete Dunn, missionary director of radio ministries, says even now 1,000 witnesses are needed to spend the next three to six months in Lebanese villages. But where are the thousand, he asks.

Years ago plans were made to send a couple to live in Sidon. Then the war came, and the time and circumstances were all wrong. Suddenly, last fall, it was time to move into Sidon, but there were no personnel.

Once, few people in the world dared walk into a Palestinian refugee camp. But last year, after the fighters were expelled, after thousands had died under the planes and more had been slaughtered in the alleys, Christian Lebanese—Baptists among them—walked into the camps to try to say, "We care."

At first they just listened to people cry and

offered to pray for them. The wonder of it was that no one refused to let a Christian pray for him. Before long people were turning to Christ and Bible studies were established.

The mission has helped with literature, prayer, clothes and a few visits to heartbroken, frightened people. But because of personnel shortages, there is no one to commit to ministry in the camps.

While these opportunities opened, the whole

Shouf Mountain area closed. The Baptist mission in Bhamdoun has become inaccessible and is without leadership. Our mission in Riyaq is isolated from other Baptists. Baptist pastors in both Riyaq and Ain Dara, in the mountains, have been kidnapped and held overnight in separate incidents.

For most of the year travel to Tripoli, Lebanon's second largest city, has been unwise for missionary Mabel Summers, who assists the Baptist church there. The pastor was injured by an explosion near his home.

Even the agreement between Lebanon and Israel could close doors, unless other Arab countries approve. Half the personnel of the Baptist mission in Lebanon are engaged in internal ministries-radio, publishing, seminary training, evangelism. Lebanon's relationships with other Arabic-speaking countries are crucial to these ministries. The country's isolation from the Arabs or a long Israeli occupation could cripple the ministries.

(Continued on page 2)

Mississippi Baptist Youth Night August 12, 1983

Mississippi Coliseum, Jackson

Order of Worship

Praise MusicYouth Night Band

Directed by Lee Poquette, Jackson Welcome and Introductions Larry Salter Prayer Earl Kelly, executive secretary, MBCB Praise from the KeyboardState Keyboard Trophy Winners
Miss Mera Hall, Jackson Mark Snow, Florence Congregational Praise Lewis Oswalt Testimony in Song ... State Vocal Festival Winners
Meditation ... All-State Youth Handbell Choir

Directed by Perry Robinson, Ellisville Choral Praise "Beginning Here and Now" Red-Hawthorne
Youth Night Choir **Directed by Clark Adams** "Why Me, Lord?"State Speakers' Tournament Winner David Croxton, Brandon

Choral Praise "Go Ye Into All the World" Butler Youth Night Choir Commissioned Anthem . . . "Share Your Love" . . . Lewis Oswalt, Pascagoula

David Meece, Oklahoma MessageWilliam Pinson, executive director—Baptist General Convention, Texas

AFTERGLOW

Youth Night Committee: Larry Salter, Chairman; Susan Clark; Jim Did-

The Baptist Kerurd OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION Volume CVII, Number 23 JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, THURSDAY, JULY 14, 1983 **Published Since 1877** Split decision

School prayer okayed in Williamsport High

SCANTON, Pa. (EP)—A federal judge has upheld the right of highschool students to form prayer groups that meet on school property during regularly scheduled activity periods. The ruling by Chief Judge William J. Nealon came in the U.S. Middle District Court of Pennsylvania in a case brought by a former student at Williamsport Area High School.

While a student at the school, plaintiff Lisa Bender had requested permission to form a club to read scriptures, pray, and discuss religious questions during a regularly scheduled student-activity period. The request was denied although no student group previously had been denied the opportunity to take part in the activity

Judge Nealon said the case was one in which "a number of students acting voluntarily and free of outside influence have requested permission to form a club and meet during the school's activity period on the same basis as other student organizations."

Room reservation

system for SBC set

DARGAN - CARVER LIBRARY S. B. C. HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Supreme Court upholds tuition tax deductions

By Stan Hastey
WASHINGTON (BP)—In a decision of historic proportions, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled June 29 that states may provide aid in the form of tuition tax deductions to parents who send their children to parochial schools.

The broadly-worded decision, which split the high court 5-4, leaves open the possibility that tuition tax credits at both state and federal levels may likewise be upheld in the future.

Justice William H. Rehnquist, who has voted to uphold every parochial aid plan to come before the high court since his appointment 12 years ago, wrote the opinion for the majority. He declared that the Minnesota plan, pro-viding income tax deductions of \$500

school and \$700 for each secondary rents. It clearly favors students in prischool pupil, has a secular purpose, does not advance religion, and does not excessively entangle the state with re-

But Justice Thurgood Marshall, speaking for the four dissenters, declared: "For the first time, the Court has upheld financial support for religious schools without any reason at all to assume that the support will be re-stricted to the secular functions of those schools and will not be used to

support religious instruction." The Minnesota law, enacted in 1978, primarily benefits parents of the state's 91,000 parochial school children in 100 of the more than 900,000 public school pupils attend schools that

rge a general tuitio ns from Baptist church-state

rs Executive Director James M. n labeled the decision an "aberration" in the Supreme Court's g effort to hold the line on

church state separation." He added: "The practical effect of the decision is to approve and foster de facto discrimination against all stu-

vate and parochial schools."

John W. Baker, general counsel of the Washington, D.C.-based organization, said Rehnquist's opinion for the majority "may be the most poorly reasoned and written" decision the court has ever rendered in a churchstate case. "It reminds me of a doctoral student who writes the conclusion to his dissertation first and then makes his research fit his conclu-

While the decision "does not mean that all types of aid to parochial ble," Baker said, its "overriding imdespite the fact that the law permits plication . . . is that the form which a parents of public school children to law takes is more important than the claim the deduction as well. Fewer principle involved when the court interprets the religion clauses of the First Amendment."

In his decision, Rehnquist said the Minnesota program met all three rerements of a three-pronged test the court has used since 1971 in sin cases. Those requirements state that lar legislative purpose," that "its on," and that it "must not fo

(Hastey writes for the Baptist Joint

Committee members disavow prayer letter

By Dan Martin FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)— Twelve of the 15 membe a of the Southern Baptist Convention's Public Affairs Committee have publicly disclaimed a letter from the newlyelected chairman of the group, Samuel T. Currin of Raleigh, N.C., which sup-ports President Reagan's proposed school prayer amendment.

On June 27, Currin wrote a letter to U.S. Sen. Strom Thurmond, R-S.C., chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, in which the former aide to U.S. Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., identified himself as chairman of the committee, the SBC's standing committee which relates to the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs. Nine Baptist groups are members.

Currin, currently U.S. District Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina, cited a 1982 resolution supporting the Reagan prayer amendment as clear evidence "that Baptists favor a restoration of voluntary prayer to the public schools."

His letter noted that "as chairman of the Southern Baptist Convention's Public Affairs Committee, I am pleased to submit for the record a copy of a resolution supporting President Reagan's proposed constitutional amendment. . . ."

Currin was elected to the committee June 13, during the 1983 annual meeting of the SBC in Pittsburgh.

Four days after Currin's letter was made public, 12 members of the committee wrote a letter to Thurmond which disclaimed the Currin letter. The letter was drafted by Russell H. Dilday Jr., president of Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth, and immediate past chairman of the Public Affairs Committee.

The letter pointed out Currin "was recently elected" and says: "He does not speak for the committee."

In addition to disclaiming that Currin was speaking for the committee, the 12 members of the Public Affairs Committee signing the letter went on record supporting the Baptist Joint

Committee on Public Affairs position opposing both the Reagan prayer proposal and a substitute offered by U.S. Sen. Orrin G. Hatch, R-Utah. The position was detailed in tes-

timony before Thurmond's Senate committee by John W. Baker, general counsel of the BJCPA, who referred to a resolution adopted during the 1983 (Continued on page 2)

Baptists give \$1.5 million in one month

A total of \$1,508,186 was given by Southern Baptist churches in Mississippi in June for statewide and worldwide missions causes, according to Earl Kelly, executive secretarytreasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board in Jackson, which receives the money.

This is the highest amount ever given for one month by the nearly 2,000 Mississippi Baptist churches to the Cooperative Program, which is a unified budget plan.

The previous high for one month was \$1,335,282 in February of this year. Before that, the high was \$1,326,332, given

in December of 1981. The six month total for giving in 1983 is \$7,584,654, which is just over half of the 1983 budget of \$15,071,000. Giving for the first six months in 1982 was \$6,764,786. June giving in 1982 was \$1.287.260.

Just over one-third of the income from the churches goes to worldwide Southern Baptist causes. The rest is used for state missions and educational programs which include three Baptist colleges, the Baptist Children's Village, and for leadership training in the churches.

"Apparently, the giving of Southern Baptists to causes within their denomination reflects strong trust in the value of those causes," said Earl Kel-

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)-A new first day. We might even run out of ystem which will be used to reserve is for the annual meeting of the

hern Baptist Convention has been ned by Tim A. Hedquist, convenon manager. The system was made necessary by site and housing guidelines adopted by messengers to the 1963 annual meeting in Pittsburgh. The last modification of

the housing guidelines was made dur-ing the 1976 Norfolk SBC. In the past, the convention took ap-proximately 6,500 rooms, all of which were handled through the convention bureau in the city in which we were meeting," Hedquist said. "Of those 6,500 rooms, block reservations could

but only 40 percent of the rooms in any hotel could be used for block reservations." The biggest change in the 1983 guidelines, he added, is the elimination of block room reservations.

be made for a maximum of 50 rooms,

Under the new system, Hedquist said the convention will retain 4,000 rooms, of which 3,000 must be within two miles of the convention center.

"Those rooms will be reserved for individuals and reservations for them must be made on reservation forms available from state convention offices in September. They must be submitted to the housing bureau, and cannot be postmarked earlier than Oct. 1," he said.

He added that the assignment of rooms will be made on the basis of the postmark. If there are more requests than housing, he added, a drawing will be held to determine priority.

"This year (in Pittsburgh) we had 3,500 letters the first day, and 2,000 the next day. For 1984, I anticipate we will fill all of the available rooms on the

ned, but only on the initiati range them. For intance, the SBC **Executive Committee and the agen**cies reserve rooms in advance for rogram personnel and for staffers.

On July 15, the list of hotels the convention will be using for its block of 4,000 rooms will be available to the public, he said, and will be published in Baptist Press, the convention's news service.

"Individuals not wishing to go through the housing bureau or groups then can contact any hotel in Kansas City directly which is not participating in the convention group of rooms. Under the new guidelines, there is absolutely no limit on the number of rooms a group can obtain from any hotel," he said.

The convention probably will use 25 to 30 hotels in downtown Kansas City for the 1984 meeting. The headquarters hotel will be the Radisson Muehlebach and the Woman's Missionary Union headquarters will be the Holiday Inn City Center.

Hedquist said only 3,000 rooms are within the two-mile limit in Kansas City, so the convention block probably will include all within the 12-block radius. However, he added, there are about 3,000 hotel rooms in the greater Kansas City area, giving an ample number of rooms for individuals or groups wishing to make block reserva-

He added, "about 15 other groups' have talked with hotel management in Kansas City, but no blocks of rooms have yet been reserved "to my know-



Dent helps to sign

Patty Dent, Mississippi WMU president and member of the national WMU relocation committee, looks on as WMU recording secretary Betty Gilreath, WMU executive diretor Carolyn Weatherford, and WMU president Dorothy Sample etch their initials in the first concrete poured for the foundation of WMU's new building. Contractsigning ceremonies were held July 1 at the New Hope Mountain site as WMU signed a \$5.5 million building contract with Brasfield and Gorrie, Inc. (Story and architect's drawing on page 2.) Lewis Arnold photo.

What's Inside?

Intensive Care, Page 2 Taking the Lord's name in vain WMU signs contract, pours, Page 2 Rice homesite ready for missions training, Page 3 Home missions giving statistics, Page 4
Summertime revivals, Page 5

Committee members disavow prayer letter

(Continued from page 1)
annual meeting of the SBC, which
urged Baptists to "express their confidence in the United States Constitution, and particularly in the First
Amendment, as adequate and sufficient guarantees to protect these fredoms."

SBC Bylaw 18 specifies the Public Affairs Committee shall have 15 members including the president of the convention and the executive secretary-treasurer of the Executive Committee. Other mandated mem-bers include "executive officers or staff representatives" of the Foreign Mission Board, Christian Life Commission, Sunday School Board, Brotherhood Commission and Wo-man's Missionary Union. Also included are the "president or

executive officers" of two other agen-

cies, and five at-large members.

Those signing the letter include Dilday, Harold C. Bennett, Executive Committee; and agency executives R. Keith Parks, FMB; William G. Tanner, HMB; Foy Valentine, CLC; Cothen, BSSB: Carolyn Watherford, WMU: Jimmy R. Allen, Radio and Television Commission, and James H. mith, Brotherhood.

At-large members signing the document are R. G. Puckett, editor of the Biblical Recorder, newsjournal of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, and chairman of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs; Donald R. Brewer, an attorney from Chicago, Ill., and Donald P. Aiesi, a professor at Furman University, Greenville, S.C.

SBC President James T. Draper Jr., pastor of First Baptist Church of Eu-less, Texas, declined to sign the letter. Albert Lee Smith, a layman and former one-term congressman from Birmingham, Ala., who was elected during the 1983 meeting as an at large member, was unavailable when members of the committee attempted to contact him.

Draper told Baptist Press he declined to sign the letter "because I don't have enough information. I am not trying to avoid anything, I just don't have enough information." He added he has not seen a copy of the Currin letter, nor a copy of the Dilday

He added he is "against state com-posed prayer," and noted the White House paper prepared as background information on Reagan's proposed amendment "indicated someone would have the authority to compose the prayers. I cannot agree to that. However, the amendment does not say that, just the White House explana-

He noted the Supreme Court decision "has been interpreted as outlaw-ing prayer" and said he wishes "the court had the courage to clarify their

He added he believes the Baptist Joint Committee and its executive director, James M. Dunn, have been cast in the role of being against prayer. They are not against voluntary prayer, but against state mandated and written prayer. I am not for state composed prayer, either, but I want voluntary prayer in schools."
Draper added he believes Currin

"an outstanding young man, who is just not familiar with the ins and outs of Southern Baptist life. I am quite sure Sen. Thurmond or the White House contacted him about making some statement about prayer in the public schools. I don't think he was being malicious; I just don't think he realized he needed to check with the committee before writing the letter."

The hardness of God is kinder than the softness of men, and His compulsion is our liberation.—C.S. Lewis

Those who deny the existence of God are hard put to explain the existence of men.-Harold Berry.

Long vigil is over for part of "Siberian Seven"

MOSCOW (EP)-The Soviet goyernment disclosed June 26 that it has granted exit visas to one of the two Siberian Pentecostal families who lived in the U.S. Embassy as religious refugees for nearly five years.

In an unusual announcement, the official Tass news agency said Pyotr

Senate defeats abortion amendment

WASHINGTON (BP)-The U.S. Seate has soundly defeated a proposed constitutional amendment designed to overturn the Supreme Court's 10year-old ruling that the Constitution protects a woman's right to privacy in abortion decisions.

By a 49-50 vote-18 votes shy of the two-thirds majority necessary for passage of a constitutional amendment—the Senate rejected a one-sentence amendment pushed by Sen. Orrin G. Hatch, R-Utah, which declares: "The right to abortion is not secured by this Constitution."

One of the Senate's strongest foes of abortion, Jesse Helms, R-N.C., a Southern Baptist voted "present." Helms, troubled by what he considered a weakness in the Hatch measure that would allow states to pass liberal abortion laws, plans to push his own proposal later in this Congress.

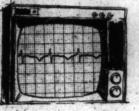
Vashchenko and his wife and 13 children had left their home in Siberia "in accordance with the established procedure for departure from the U.S.S.R. for residence abroad."

The brief announcement said the Vaschenkos were leaving at the invitation of their daughter Lydia, who was allowed to emigrate in April, but it a gave no further details.

Five years ago today, seven Siberian Pentecostalists sprinted past sy and took refuge inside in hopes of winning American help in emigrating. They were the Vashchenko parents, three of their adult daughters-Lydia, Lyuba and Lilia-and two friends. Maria Chmykhalov and her son, Timofei, now 20.

The Tass report made no mention of the Chmykhalovs, who, unlike the Vashchenkos, are believed to have no relatives outside the Soviet Union who could provide the legally required invitations to emigrate. In response to a question about them, the embassy spokesman said, 'We continue to express our hope and concern for the Chmykhalovs, that they also may be able to leave as they desire."

For nearly five years the "Siberian seven," as the two families came to be known, lived in a single cramped 12 x 20 foot room on the embassy's ground floor. The room's window looked out through grillwork at the leatherbooted feet of Soviet guards and beyond to the grinding traffic of a main thoroughfare.



Intensive care

Dedicated to strengthening families Directed by a team of family life

Taking the Lord's name in vain

Will you please give me a definitive answer to this question: What exactly is meant by "taking the Lord's name in

I feel when a person says, "Oh, God!" as an exclamation to get a laugh (as is often done on television), that this is one of many ways God's name is taken in vain. A dear friend disagrees.

We both want to have a clearer understanding of this commandment and shall be looking for your answer in The Baptist Record.

Dear V.J.: The third commandment is usually interpreted as a warning against profanity or prostituting the holy name of God into a blasphemous path. Even more sinful, perhaps, would be professing to belong to God and then living as though we belong to the devil. Many present day church members seem to be guilty of a profar ity of life instead of a profanity of lips In the days of the Old Testament, a name was understood to be an extension of one's personality. So the holy me of God expresses the character of his person. To invoke his name in a vile curse is the profanity the Bible here condemns.

Sometimes one hears otherwise 'reverent people" exclaim, "Good Lord," or "Oh, God," or use his name in some flippant way. This, to many who revere his name, sounds profane. One must remember, however, that God judges the motives and intent of the heart; and, while such may not be putting the user in the best light or giving the best Christian witness, we must leave the judgment to God. We are with you in that we can't help but notice such use and feel pain for one either so thoughtless or inadequate in

What does this have to do with family? We should teach our children that true reverence involves all of life.

Inquiries to Intensive Care are welcomed. Readers who feel the need of being in touch with Intensive Care are encouraged to write. Identities remain confidential. And though the identities of those performing this ministry have been kept confidential to this point, they are well qualified for the service they are rendering. Inquiries should be addressed to Intensive Care, Baptist Record, Box 530, Jackson, MS

capsules

Ukrainian offices

KIEV—In early summer of this year, Ukrainian Baptists will inaugurate a newly-renovated office building

Jakov Doukhonchenko, a vicepresident of the All-Union Council of Evangelical Christians-Baptists in the USSR (AUCECB), leads the work of 23 regional Superintendents as senior presbyter for the Ukraine. When the building is dedicated it will provide of-fices for Doukhonchenko and two deputy presbyters, as well as for an assistant and for the Baptist superintendent of the Kiev district. (In December of 1981 Doukhonchenko visited Mississippi with five other Russian Bap-

BMH technicians win

MEMPHIS—Medical technology students at Baptist Memorial Hospital drew on their knowledge of laboratory medicine to win the Southeastern Regional Student Bowl Competition, defeating five other schools of medical technology.

The annual event is sponsored by the American Society for Medical Technology, and was held this year in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

Winning students include Terry Northrop of Philadelphia, Pa.; Mary Ruth Kriger, Houston, Miss.; Peggy Pittman, Clarksdale, Miss.; Bill Duff, Bloomington, Ind.; and Stephanie Carraway, Idaho Falls, Idaho.

Baptist Memorial students defeated the University of North Carolina; the Medical College of Georgia; the University of Southern Mississippi; St. Margaret's Hospital in Montgomery, Ala.; and Anderson Memorial Hospital in Anderson, S.C., to gain the title.

Six shortsighted

PITTSBURGH (BP)-Southern Baptists are very honest, but unspectacular, if the lost and found items at the recent Southern Baptist Convention are any evidence.

Among the items turned in and returned to the owners were cash and travelers checks worth \$1,600, numerous credit cards, six sets of ballots, an expensive gold wristwatch, and a number of Bibles and notebooks.

Still unclaimed are six pairs of prescription eyeglasses and a set of car

Lee Porter, registration secretary, who handles the lost and found booth at the convention, can be contacted at 127 Ninth Ave. North, Nashville, Tenn.,

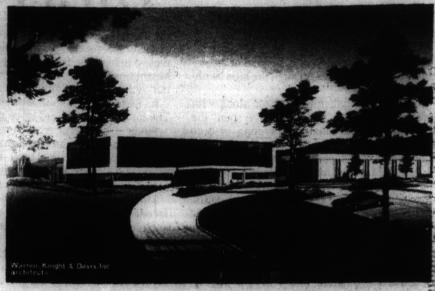
"Joining, receiving"

NORFOLK, Va. (EP)-Another attempt at expanding by the unusual "joining and receiving" procedure has been authorized by the Presbyterian Church in America general assembly. The denomination's governing body, meeting here, invited the Orthodox Presbyterian Church to join the PCA and asked PCA Presbyteries (regional governing units) to ratify the bid.

Presbyteries are expected to vote this fall on whether to back up the assembly's bid to the smaller and older OPC. In 1981 the regional units unanimously approved an invitation to the Reformed Presbyterian Church-Evangelical Synod, and RPCES joined PCA in 1982.

If the 12,250 member OPC joints the 130,000 member PCA, it will do so by accepting the PCA's name, doctrine, government, and programs-just as the RPCES did in 1982.

WMU signs contract, pours foundation



BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)-Foundation-laying ceremonies and a contract signing launched the major phase of construction on the new nationwide headquarters for Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union July 1.

Standing amid construction gear atop New Hope Mountain south of Birmingham, officers of Woman's Missionary Union signed a \$5.5 million contract with Brasfield and Gorrie, Inc. Concrete flowed for the first portion of foundation slabs, and women on WMU's national relocation committee etched their initials in it.

WMU/President, Dorothy Elliott Sample, a psychologist from Flint, Mich., announced the building would be two-and-one-half times the size of WMU's present accommodations-137,280 square feet. Its three wings will include an office and conference center, a distribution center and an auditorium-television facility. Sample

said WMU expects to be working in the new building next June.

Construction costs will be just more than \$40 per square foot.

WMU's development will cost approximately \$7.5 million, including an initial purchase of more than 25 acres of land in The Meadows Business

Architect Robert W. Black's design of white brick, white precast concrete, and black glass replaced an earlier proposal for a circular office tower. That plan was scrapped after construction estimates convinced WMU officials that the design was in-

efficient use of money and space. Approximately 150 staff members will work at the new site in north. Shelby County. Their tasks include designing and planning missions educa-tion and promotion in Southern Baptist churches. WMU has more than 1.1 million members in 24,942 churches.

On a roller coaster in Lebanon

(Continued from page 1)

"I have wasted a lot of opportunities in Lebanon," one missionary says. "I used to think the doors would always be open there. My basic feeling now is one of concern that, given even a crack in the door, we must be sure we can use it."

Missionary Bill Trimble, dean of the Arab Baptist Theological Seminary, says the way to do this is to "have a positive program, looking toward growth. Entrenching is a losing

Yet, it is hard to keep planning while the world crumbles. Sometimes it feels like packing a picnic in the face of a tornado warning. On a recent Sunday morning members of Monsouriyeh Baptist Church worshiped while two big guns fired a few hundred yards away. During a revival the following week, there was no shooting, the church was full, and 12 people accepted Christ.

Even a lull in the battle is a "crack in the

The tragedy of violence, tension and danger affects missionaries deeply. When Jim Ragland, director of Beirut Baptist School, was asked what he had learned from living in Lebanon, his first response was, "I have learned sorrow." It is hard to care for so many people and not be crushed by caring.

Danger is always present. Not long ago a

missionary woman went to Kafr Shima, just south of the airport. While walking from her car to an apartment, bullets began spattering around her. She had mistakenly walked on the wrong side of the street, the side exposed to

Right now it is hard to work in Lebanon. But missionaries want to be reconcilers, to help people forgive and be free of bitterness.

The center of the situation is not the difficulty but the opportunity, because of needs today and uncertainty about tomorrow. And a feeling of urgency.

(Frances Fuller is missionary press representative for Lebanon.)

Argentina preaching gets results

The following reports are from participants in a series of evangelistic crusades in the West **Buenos Aires Province of** Argentina. A total of 14 Mississippians took the trip April 8-20.

Yet he stayed true

By Roy and Syble Myers We read in Matthew 15:28 where Jesus said to the woman, "Great is thy faith." While we were in Argentina we saw and heard testimony in life and action of the people of Casero Baptist Church in Buenos Aires to this effect.

The young people were dedicated to the church in a way that blessed our heart. They wanted to learn more about Jesus Christ and the Word of God. They were in no hurry to get out of

Many of the people in Casero Baptist Church would have to spend a day's wage to get to church on Sunday. This they were willing to do in order to worship God and hear the Word of God

There was one man in Casero Baptist Church that showed forth this faithfulness during the time the church was about to fold up. He is over 70 years of age; and for 3½ years, when no one was there to serve as pastor, and all the rest of the members quit coming, he would go to the church building every Sunday. At the appointed hour he would unlock the church, go in, and pray during the time the worship service should be in progress. He prayed that God would send the church a pastor and that the members would come back and be faithful.

During this time he lost his wife in an accident, one of his brothers died, and he lost his business and all that he had. Yet he stayed true to God.

Today they have a very fine, dedi-cated pastor; and the church has about 40 members and is sponsoring a mission in another section of the city. They are remodeling the church building and increasing the size of the auditorium. There were around 85 or 90 in the Sunday evening service that we

I believe that this is due to the faithfulness of this man. May we ask ourselves, "How great is my faith?" For Syble and myself this trip to the mission field has caused us to see the need of a greater faith on our part to our church and to our Savior, Jesus Christ. Roy Myers is pastor of Rocky Creek Excited, alive, ready

By William and Nadine Waddle The church that we served in was a very small and weak church. Three weeks before we arrived they had five in attendance in their services, and the pastor was discouraged and ready to leave. The first night of our revival there were 13 present, and the number grew until there were 31 present on the last night of our services. We had an average attendance each night of 25.

Out of those who came, there were six professions of faith. By the end of the revival and our stay, there was a total change in the spirit of the people. The pastor and the entire church were excited, alive, and ready to go.

William Waddle is pastor of Emmanuel Church, Grenada.

Church travel costs

By Harry L. Lucenay

I stayed in an Argentine home and spent a lot of time without the assistance of a translator. I ate in several modest homes. The pastor of the 30member Muniz Church makes a living selling goods to various stores.

He lived as a caretaker in a home many miles from the church. Every trip to the church means two bus trips, a walk three-quarters of a mile, and the expense of several bus tickets. He takes his wife and three small children with him. I understand that several people in the church spend up to onetenth of their income just to travel to and from the church.

The people of the church are warm and loving. They questioned me in depth about the ways they could minister to their humble community. They were interested in attracting new people through caring ministers.

I found it most interesting that one member of the church would give me a Spanish scripture reference. I would look up the verse in English and try to respond with my Spanish on a verse from the Bible. Communication through the scriptures was most chal-

lenging. Harry L. Lucenay is pastor of Temple Church, Hattiesburg.

Their love reached

By Reed Dicken, Jr. Maybe I will get back down to the earth some day. For now, though, I am satisfied to stay high for awhile. The entire mission was a once-in-a-lifetime experience. I thank God for the opportunity that has been ours. Thanks to Guy Henderson for inviting me to make the journey. My people have a new pastor, and they seem to like him.

As for my thoughts on the mission, I believe that I can say the mission was accomplished. God blessed us in every way possible. He opened doors that were closed and gave us opportunity after opportunity. I found a very heart-warming people who were loving, kind, and gentle. They were hungry for the 'truths' of the Word of God. In the church where I preached, they were in search of the Lord's will for their lives. Their ambitions are not selfish and will glorify God. The reception of the Word was tremendous as they sat there just drinking in every word spoken. Their love reached out like the warmth coming from a heater. I have never experienced as much love in such short time as I did with the people of Argentina.

They are studying the Word, seeking the leadership of the Holy Spirit, preaching with fervor, praying in faith, and are being witnesses as well as doing witnessing. I believe that one of these days soon we are going to hear of some real great things coming out of Argentina for the Lord Jesus. Their brand of Christianity can set the world afire for Jesus. I know it moved my own heart just to be with them. My prayers and the prayers of my church will be with them daily.

May God continue to bless what we tried to do.

Reed Dicken, Jr. is pastor of Ethel Church in Ethel.

"I won't forget" By Bill Mitchell

urged my church to support missions through giving and praying, but I never saw missions involvement until went to Argentina. In the city of Buenos Aires I saw and felt the real needs of people.

There were hundreds of high-rise

I have preached about missions and

apartments filled with people, thousands or buses jammed with people, miles of streets teeming with people, millions of people without Christ. For the first time I realized what Jesus meant when he said, "The fields are white unto harvest." I could also identify with Jesus a little better when he looked at the city of Jerusalem and wept.

God gave us many victories as we preached and witnessed in the churches. I was in the church at Ramos Mejia, and I was amazed to see God interpret his Word to those who came to the services. Souls were saved, and people committed them-selves to the task of winning souls to

One young boy, the son of the pastor,

wrote, "I won't forget that day on April --10 when you helped me give my heart to Jesus." A teenage girl wrote, "In this week I realized many things, but the most important thing is that I feel God's love like never in my life. In your' messages we heard God's voice in our hearts. We hope you will come again; and if you don't come again, we will

see you in the sky." In the first service of Friday evening, a young man was saved. Sunday morning I shared with them the story of Andrew bringing Peter to Christ. Sunday evening I was standing outside the church after the service and he came running to me, excitedly repeat ing something in Spanish. The interpreter told me he was saying, "I am like Andrew. I have brought my brother to Jesus."

One thing came as quite a shock to me as I saw the dedication of our missionaries and the people in the churches. I realized I had never really made a sacrifice for Jesus.

Bill Mitchell is pastor of Rawls Springs Church near Hattiesburg.

Woman elected

PITTSBURGH (EP)-A New York woman, originally from St. Louis, was elected June 27 as secretary of the United Church of Christ, and church officials said it was the highest office to be held by a woman in any major Protestant denomination. She is Joyce Carol Brun of White Plains, N.Y.

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Baptist college leaders plan study of ministerial education

By Lonnie Wilkey

and Karen Bens DALLAS (BP)-Presidents and deans of Southern Baptist colleges and schools have made two major moves to strengthen relationships between colleges and universities supported by the state Baptist conventions and the six seminaries supported by the Southern Baptist Convention.

Action took place during the annual meeting of the Association of Southern Baptist Colleges and Schools in late

Deans and other academic officers

voted to appoint a study committee to consider the issue of ministerial education in Southern Baptist institutions of higher education. Several Baptist colleges and universities offer graduate degrees or have endowed schools in theology and religionacademic areas traditionally reserved for the six seminaries.

The issue is of "very vital interest" to the academic officials, according to Arthur L. Walker Jr., executive director-treasurer of the SBC Education Commission.

"I think Southern Baptists are

Southern Baptis Home Mission Board's Missions Ministries Division,

said the center represents a new ap-

proach in missions training in new

work areas. Laypeople and clergy will

be able to reside at the center for short-term study periods, gleaning

missions strategy from Rice's own

writings and through seminary exten-

May said Baptists are indebted to

Rice for his "dream of a denomination

focused on missions rooted in educa-

tion and bonded by communication,"

and added Rice's 23-year ministry among Baptists in America sparked

support and cooperation in foreign

missions endeavors begun by fellow Baptists Adoniram and Ann Judson,

In May 1814, the General Convention of the Baptist Denomination in the Un-ited States for Foreign Missions (later

shortened to the Trienr al Convention) was formed, providing a structure for individuals, churches, associations, missionary societies and other Baptist

groups to coordinate efforts to proc-

laim the gospel throughout the world.

The national denomination later di-

vided in 1845 to form the American

Baptist Convention and the Southern

Baptist Convention He was committed to education and

helped found Columbian College, now

George Washington University in

Washington, D.C., as a training school

Believing a communications net-

work was vital to keeping Baptists'

missions support alive, Rice established a religious weekly, the Star, which later became the Christian Index, newsjournal for the Georgia Baptist Convention. He to founded an

earlier national journal to arouse mis-sionary support, the Latter Day Lumi-

The new center, according to James

Currin, area director of missions for the Baptist Genera, Association of New England, will selp Baptists in re-sponding to God's cell to be on mission.

Three buildings of the grounds will house a seminary extension center and

provide theological training for pas-

tors and laypeople in the Northeast.

The center also is home to a missions

library and a visitor and witnessing

center. Cal Guy, retired Southwestern

Baptist Theological Seminary profes-sor, will direct the center.

(Tutterow writes for the HMB.)

Winston County Association is hold-

ing an evangelistic conference July

15-16, at First Church, Louisville, be-

ginning Friday at 1:30 p.m., and con-

The conference will sponsor a co-

Featured speakers include Auzie

Sullivan, Charles Rogers, Larry Williams, Tommy Tu or, Earl Kelly, W.

B. Abel, Harvey Sewell, Leonard Howell, George Ja kson, Kara Black-ard, Jimmy Port r, and Robert At-

A nursery will be provided on a li-

mited basis during conference ses-

Alvis K. Cooper is conference

vered dish dinner on the grounds at

cluding Saturday at 8:45 p.m.

noon Saturday.

chairman.

Winston to hold

evangelistic meet

nary, and served as its editor.

for missionaries and pastors.

then serving in Burrna.



Charles Martin, second from right, vice president for acadernic affairs at Mississippi College, was elected vice president of the Association of Southern Baptist Colleges and Schools at the organization's recent annual meeting in Dallas. Other officers from left are James D. Jordan Jr., president of North Greenville College, Tigerville, S.C., secretary-treasurer; Milton Ferguson, president, of Midwestern Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., president; and Arthur L. Walker Jr., executive directortreasurer of the Southern Baptist Education Commission, executive secretary.

Baptists dedicate Rice homesite for study

By Michael Tutterow NORTHBOROUGH, Mass.

'More than anyone else, Luthe ice planted the seeds from which sang the modern mission thrust of Ba in America," said Lynn E. Ma Jr., executive director of the Southern Baptist Historical Commission.

May and dozens of Baptist denominational leaders and laypeople honored Baptist missions pioneer Luther Rice and dedicated his homesite here as The Center for Missions and Education, a facility for training Baptists for missions work, during ceremonies

the transformation of scattered churches into a national denomina-M. Wendell Belew, director of the

Missions meet 139 will celebrate Rice's birthday

To help celebrate Luther Rice's birthday, Southern Baptists and American Baptists will unite Oct. 7-9 for a consultation on world missions at First Baptist Church, Washington,

U.S. Senator Mark Hatfield of Oregon has been invited. Other speakers are Emmanuel McCall, black church relations director for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, and Emmett Johnson, director of evangelism for the American Baptist

Registration is \$35. For housing and other information, call (202) 387-2206, or write Luther Rice Mission Consultation, First Baptist Church, 1328 16th St. N.W., Washington, D.C., 20036.

A change in meaning

The loss of a two-letter word in an editorial in the June 30 issue of the Baptist Record changed the meaning of the sentence involved. The editorial, "Let's make it a good Fourth," had a sentence which should have read, "Of course, it must always be remem-bered that individually those of us who have religious convictions have the right and even the responsibility of being involved in governmental affairs; and, as we are involved, we have no need to be silent about our religious persuasions." The word, "no," was inadvertantly dropped from the sentence, thereby changing the meaning.

Music leaders to hear piano duo

A highlight of the Music Leadership Conference at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, July 20-23 will be a piano duo concert, July 22 at 8 p.m. in the assembly auditorium.

Guest artists will be Michael Smith, minister of music at Parkway Church, Jackson, and Tommy Byrd, assistant minister of music and organist at

Two Steinway grand pianos are being provided for the concert in cooperation with Werlein's for Music, Edgewater Park City, Biloxi.

The piano team will be accompanied by an orchestral ensemble composed of instrumentalists from across the

The concert is a culmination of a year of special emphasis in church music, "Reaching People Through Instrumental Music."

headed toward an educational crisis, and this deals with that crisis, Walker said. He told the academic deans the Education Commission is willing to work with the two groups to provide a forum for discussion.

The association also elected Milton Ferguson, president of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., as president of the organization. His election to that post is a move that is expected to further strengthen the relationship between colleges and universities and the six seminaries.

There has been no other seminary president named to the top position in the association's 35-year history. Ferguson, vice president of the ASBCS this past year, was elected unanimously by the approximately 160 officials gathered for the meeting.

Other 1983-84 officers are Charles Martin, vice president for academic affairs, Mississippi College, vice president; and James Jordan, president of North Greenville College, Tigerville, S.C., secretary-treasurer.

Walker was reelected executive secretary of the association.

(Wilkey writes for the Education Commission; Benson for Baylor Uni-

Itawamba names **BSU** director

Gregg Thomas has been named as Baptist Student Union director at Itawamba Junior College in Fulton.

Thomas, 24, comes to the position from the pas-torate of Peoples Church, Ripley. Thomas is no stranger to the I.J.C. campus of the Fulton area since his father, Horace

Thomas C. Thomas, was pastor of the Trinity Baptist Church in Fulton for twelve years. The younger Thomas is a graduate of Itawamba High School in Fulton and attended Itawamba Junior College during his freshman year, where he was active in the BSU, serving as its vice-president. He also attended Mississippi Delta Junior College and Mississippi College and is a graduate of Blue Mountain College.

He has been associate pastor and Church, Corinth, and was minister of music and youth with North Winena Church, Winona, and Priceville Church, Tupelo, during his college days. He has alaso led youth retreats and revivals.

Thomas will begin his new work on



CLINTON-When the 15th annual Pre-School Workshop unfolds at Mississippi College July 25-29 there will be several denominational leaders among the individuals serving as resource leaders.

According to Frances McGuffee, workshop coordinator and professor of home economics at MC, the week-long meeting will bring together church workers, pre-school directors, and others involved in pre-school education to discuss the theme "Reaching the Child's Potential At School."

Among the resource personnel for the week will be Doris Rouse, a Nashville teacher, a conference leader at both Ridgecrest, and Glorieta Baptist Assemblies, and a frequent writer for Baptist publications; Mrs. Kaye Keeton of Sturgis, a part-time kindergarten and day care approved worker for the Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board; and Mrs. Janet Kemp, director of the Pre-school Education Center at New Orleans Seminary.

Joining these three as consultants will be Jean Shaw, School of Education, University of Mississippi, Mrs. Mary Beth Hanbery, Magnolia Academy, Jackson; Mrs. Sue Hathorn, SAAN, Jackson; Mrs. Beverly Moffett, director of the Child Development Center, South Tippah Con-

to unfold

Mississippi College; Bettye Coward, assistant professor of home economics, Mississippi College; and Mrs. Carol McDill, instructor of home economics at Mississippi College.

In addition to covering curriculum for each of the age groups, other topics of discussion will include "Development Interaction in the Preschool Year," "Movement," "Computers and Preschoolers," "Mathematics," "Walk Through and Do," "Nutrition and Learning," "Music," and "Practical Applications of Philosophy and Theology."

McGuffee said that non-degree, graduate, or undergraduate credit in the workshop. Those desiring col-lege credit should be officially admitdate of the workshop.

Persons desiring a brochure or having questions concerning the workshop should call McGuffee at 924-5131, Ext.

Preschool workshop ready

solidated School, Ripley; Mrs. Betty Barber, nursery school supervisor.

CHURCH STEEPLES

may be earned by those participating ted or readmitted to Mississippi College at least two weeks prior to the Applicants for undergraduate ad-

missions should contact the dean of admissions, while those seeking graduate credit should contact the vice-president for graduate studies. A \$15 application fee must accompany the application of those seeking admission to Mississippi College for the first time.

Editorial posts taken

Herb Hollinger moves to California paper

FRESNO, Calif. (BP)-Herbert V. Hollinger; editor of the Northwest Baptist Witness, was elected editor of The California Southern Baptist, newsjournal of the Southern Baptist General Convention of California, in a called meeting of the board operations committee of the Executive Board, June 7. All 1995

He will assume the office Sept. 1. Hollinger succeeds Elmer L. Gray who has been the editor since March of 1974. Gray is retiring but will continue with the paper as a consultant until December.

Hollinger, a graduate of the University of Idaho and Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, began his career in journalism with secular newspapers. He worked with the Reminder and Reminder Morning of Burley, Idaho, and later was editor and general manager of the South Idaho Press, also of Burley.

He was licensed to preach in 1970 by

tist. The paper was started in De-cember of 1941 and edited by part-time employees. The first full-time editor was Floyd Looney. The fourth editor was Don McGregor in 1971-1973. He is now editor of the Baptist Record.

Miller retires in Nev.; McCullough named

RENO, Nev. (BP)-Vern A. Miller has retired as editor of the Nevada Baptist and will be replaced by Mike McCullough.

Miller, a retired veteran of the U.S. Navy, was selected in February 1979 to the Nevada Baptist Convention was

McCullough, a native of San Antonio. Texas, will assume the editorship with the July issue, according to Nevada Executive Director Ernest B. Myers. He has been on the staff of the convention as director of Christian social ministries since January of 1982.

He is a graduate of Texas A & M University, Southwestern Baptist' Theological Seminary and Louisiana State University. His wife, Sarah, is a graduate of San Jose State University and Golden Gate Seminary. Seminary.

A man can no more diminish God's glory by refusing to worship Him than a lunatic can put out the sun by scrib-bling the word "darkness" on the walls of his cell .- C. S. Lewis.

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Wake Forest elects first non-Baptist president

WINSTON SALEM, N. C. (BP)-Thomas K. Hearn, Jr., 46, senior vice president for nonmedical programs at the University of Alabama in Birmingham, has been elected the first non-Baptist president of Wake Forest University in the school's 149year history.

Hearn, who will assume office Oct. 1, received unanimous approval by the university's presidential search committee and the board of trustees at a called session meeting.

Hearn, a Presbyterian with a Southern Baptist background, will succeed Wake Forest's James Ralph Scales as president of the Baptist institution.

Presbyterians say evangelism needs are "urgent"

ATLANTA (EP)—Newly reunited Presbyterians, following long debate and by a divided vote, accepted abortion with reservations June 14. The new denomination, combining North-erners and Southerners, also declared the "church's commitment to minimize abortion."

By a standing vote of about 800-100, the governing assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) declared: "Abortion can . . . be considered a responsible choice within a Christian ethical framework when serious genetic problems arise or when the resources are not adequate to care for a child appropriately."

Earlier in the day Presbyterians, characteristically reserved about evangelistic appeals to win new believers, agreed to stress such efforts as a "necessary, urgent and major priority" in an increasingly secularized culture. The launching of a five-year evangelism emphasis came in the face of recent downward trends in mem-

Declaring that the "mission of the church is to witness to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior," the governing as-sembly of the denomination added that the task involves both "proclaiming the word and doing the word."

During a press conference held shortly after Hearn's election, C. C. Hope Jr., chairman of the search committee and the Wake Forest board of trustees, said Hearn "has made comments about his belief that Wake Forest should remain true to its heritage as a Baptist institution and that he has the background, training and be-liefs that will help him in building upon that relationship."

Hearn, a graduate of Southern Seminary in Louisville, also is a summa cum laude graduate of Birmingham-Southern College and holds the doctor of philosophy degree from Vanderbilt University. He has done additional advanced study at Glasgow, Scotland University.

Hearn was professor of philosophy at the College of William and Mary before joining the University of Alabama staff in 1974 as professor and chairman of the philosophy department. In 1976 he was named dean of the university's School of Humanities. Two years later he became vice president for nonmedical programs at the Birmingham, Ala., university.

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Jim Keith has resigned as pastor of . First Church, Gulfport, to become pastor of First Church, Richardson, Tex.

A Jackson native. Keith is a graduate of Mississipp Colege and earned the loctor of theology legree from Southestern Seminary. He went to First, Gulfport in 1977 from the pastorate of First Church,

Jay Vincent Sutton has been called s pastor of Center Grove Baptist Church, Meridian. He is a graduate of Meridian Junior

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McCary of Merilian. They have two children, Angela nd Peggy.

Ken Spain has accepted the pasto-rate of Bellevue Church, Shelby, succeeding Carl Prewitt, now on the mis-sion field in the Philippines. Spain, a ative of Hartselle, Ala., and wife, landy, a native of Michigan, are in reence; and he will commute to Midmerica Seminary, wherehe is a third year, masters degree student. He at-tended Clarke College and was graduated from Sanford University in Alabama.

Richard White has been called as pastor of Cambridge Church Gautier. He has served churches in Mississippi

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Billy Dowdy has resigned as pastor of new Hope Bapti't Church, Franklin Association, in o der to enter Mid-America Seminar, Memphis, in August. His temporty address is RR2, Box 225, Terry, NS 39170 (phone 878-6865) and until moving to Memphis he is available for supply.

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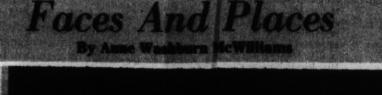
Church, Clearwa-ter, Fla., where he has been minister of education / administration since 1977: A graduate of the University of Louisville, he earned the master of religious education Gambrell degree from South-

western Seminary Jerry N. Watts, interim minister of music at South 28th Avenue Church, Hattiesburg, has resigned to become minister of music/youth at Waller Church, Bossier City, La. He is a re-cent graduate of William Carey Col-

Clifton Perkins is interim pastor of First Church, Pontotoc. Perkins is director of the Church-Minister Relations department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Tommy Tackett is the new pastor at Immanuel Church, (Pontotoc).

Ray Burks is new director of youth ministry at Harrisburg Church, Tupelo.





FIFTH GRADE GAs that I called "my girls" at Morrison Heights Church, Clinton, this year received awards (Mission Adventures emblems or certificates) on Recognition Night, June 1. Left to right, they are Monica Stack, Kim Tanner, Roxanne Penton, Dana Ponder, Sheree Hand, Shea Fox, Mariann Daniel, and Kathy Hawkins. Tiffany Green and Katie Harrison also received certificates, but were not present and Brandi McGuffee had moved to another city.

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Emma Hudspeth of Ashland has five children, not just the four I named in my June 23 column. The fifth is Franscene (Mrs. Bill Autry).

Choirs invited to sing at youth world congress

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Youth choirs attending the Tenth Baptist Youth World Conference in Buenos Aires, Argentina, may register to present a brief concert during the July 11-15, 1984, meeting, according to conference

music coordinator Leroy Yarbrough. Yarbrough, music professor at New Orleans Seminary, said choirs which contact him in advance will be scheduled to sing on the conference program or at a satellite location.

Many opportunities will be available for choirs to sing during the week, Yarbrough said, including parks, shopping malls, surrounding communities and prior to all sessions of the "I would like to have as many choirs

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For brochures and registration forms to attend the Tenth Baptist Youth World Conference, write to Baptist World Alliance, Youth Conference 1628 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009. Approximately 6,000 youth and their sponsors are expected to attend.

Brooks licensed

Roy Gene Brooks of Parkway Church, Houston, was licensed to the ministry, May 1. He is the first in the 14-year history of Parkway to be licensed to the ministry. He, his wife, Myra Sue, and their children have left for Fort Worth where he will study at Southwestern Seminary.

To make application for a y choir to sing in Buenos Aires, wri Leroy Yarbrough, New Orleans tist Theological Seminary, 3939 tilly Blvd., New Orleans, La. 701

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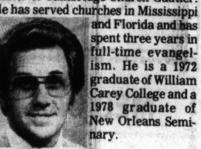
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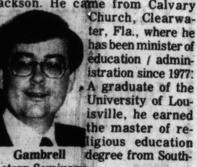
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Gilbert Washington, standing left; Jeromy Williams, standing right; and Tom Denham, seated, are residents in clinical pastoral education at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson. Chaplain residents work closely with sick and troubled people as they go through physical and emotional illness. Washington, a native of Chicago, holds the master of divinity degree from Vanderbilt University Divinity School in Nashville, Tenn. Williams, a Jackson native, and Denham, whose home is Pensacola, Fla., both hold the master of divinity degree from Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky. James Travis III, far left, a Mississippi Baptist, is director of pastoral services at the Medical Center. Su McLain, center standing, also a chaplain resident, is a member of the Presbyterian laity.

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP)-M. Vernon Davis, pastor of First Church, Alexandria, Va., and immediate past president of the Baptist General As-sociation of Virginia, has been elected to the faculty of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Davis, who will be associate professor of theology will join the faculty July 15.

Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Frost, Annie Lou awshe, and Mrs. Kirk Thomas of Ebenezer Church, Holmes County, traveled to Burlington, Iowa, for mission work at First Southern Baptist Church there. Frost, pastor at Ebenezer, preached at the church twice with 12 decisions reported and a four day door to door canvas resulted in many contacts for the church and 11 professions of faith in Jesus Christ.

Gary "Slim" Cornett, full-time music evangelist and concert artist, has moved to Louisville; he is staff evangelist at South Louisville Baptist Church. He can be contacted through Gospel Concerts, Inc., Rt. 4, Box 42-H, Louisville, Miss. 39339, phone (601) 773-8438, or South Louisville Baptist Church, where Gary Rivers is pastor.

Sexual discrimination suit against Brotherhood dismissed

By Craig Bird
CINCINNATI (BP)—A sexual discrimination suit against the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission filed

in 1961, has been dismissed by the 6th
U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.
The three-judge panel of Cornelia
Kennedy, Nathaniel Jones and Paul Weick affirmed a ruling June 18, 1982, by Judge Odell Horton of the United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee, that "a complete and binding settlement agreement has been negotiated among the parties in this cause."

Barbara (Mrs. Robert) Minor, 45, a nine-year employee of the Brother-hood Commission, filed suit April 9, 1981, against the commission, three of its executives and the Southern Baptist Convention, charging sexual harassment and defamation of reputation. She asked for \$3 million in dam-

Horton ruled an Aug. 4, 1981, agreement whereby Mrs. Minor would receive eight months salary, up to \$1,000 for medical expenses and \$5,000 for legal expenses, was to be enforced. All of the settlement was paid by the **Brotherhood Commission.**

Mrs. Minor had signed the agree-

ment, but her attorney had never to ask the United States Supreme mailed a copy of the signed agreement Court to review the case. to the Brotherhood Commission attorney, Ernest Kelly.

When Mrs. Minor received the pro-posed settlement, which contained a general release clause of all claims, and after discussing the proposal with her husband, she "decided she did not want to settle the case in accordance with the terms outlined in the letter which she had signed two days previously," court records state.

When Mrs. Minor refused to honor the agreement, the Brotherhood Commission filed a motion for enforcement of the settlement agreement with the district court.

The 6th Circuit Court said, "The facts indicate (Mrs. Minor) knowingly and voluntarily consented to the settlement terms that were presented in the letter . . . There is no basis upon which we can conclude that the lower court abused its discretion in deciding to enforce the settlement agreement." Kelly said the settlement could be

completed, "within a matter of days" after Mrs. Minor indicates there will be no more legal action. The only two options left in the case are to appeal to the 6th Circuit Court for a rehearing or

The 6th Circuit Court was ruling only on whether the agreement was binding and all participants in the case remain under a permanent injunction by Horton to refrain from making any public statement on the merits of the case.

In her suit, Mrs. Minor contended that David Haney (then a director of the Baptist Men's division but no longer with the Brotherhood Commission) declined to promote her to a division level secretary in 1980 after she refused to respond to what she described as a request for sexual favors on behalf of an associate. (Bird is BP feature editor.)

650 youths decide

SAN ANTONIO, Texas (BP)-More than 650 decisions for Christ were registered from a crowd of about 13,000 young people at the annual Youth Evangelism Conference.

Although attendance at the event, sandwiched between five-day Super Summer Evangelism Schools, was down from last year, there were about 200 more decisions this year.

First Baptist Church, Sumrall (Lamar): July 17-22; Sonny Adkins, New Hebron, Ms., evangelist; Jerry Swimmer, Iuka, Ms., music evangelist; Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; nightly at 7:30 p.m.; Dennis H.

Shiloh (Montgomery): July 17-22; Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; during week at 7:30 p.m.; James Allen, evangelist; Frank Roberson, pastor.

Liberty (Scott): homecoming revival; July 17-22; Cliff Shipp, pastor of Highland, Jackson, preaching; Eddie Steadman of Forest Church, music leader; Tom Martin, pastor.

Ted (Smith): July 17-22; George McNeese of Coffee Springs, evangelist; Thomas Winn of Trinity Church, Laurel, music director; Miss Mary Linda Bassett of Louis, pianist; dinner at church Sunday, the 17th; services nightly at 7:30 p.m.; John E. Barrow, pastor.

First, Mt. Olive: July 10-15; Sunday at 11 and 6; Mon.-Fri. at 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Perry Neal of Montgomery, evangelist; Barry Burris, minister of music, Eighth Avenue, Meridian, music director; Kenneth E. Walters, pastor.

Pleasant Grove (Wayne): July 10-14; services Sunday at 9:45 a.m. and p.m., and weekdays at 7 p.m.; Brooks Barkley, First, Hartselle, Ala., evangelist; Stan Henson, First, Greenwood, Ark., musician; Gerald Odom, pastor.

Ebeneezer (Holmes): homecoming and revival; homecoming day July 10, revival continues through July 15; services at 9 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Allen Moore of Jackson Gap, Ala., evangelist; M. L. Frost, pastor.

Calvary Church, Corinth: July 17-20; Phil Glisson from Leawood Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., preaching; James Lewis, associate pastor, Tate Street Church, Corinth, leading music; Wayne Marshall, pastor.

Love Joy Church (Alcorn): July 18-22; Billy Paul Feltman, former pastor of Love Joy, preaching; R. H. Thompson, pastor; services at 7:30 nightly.

Arkabutla Baptist Church, Arkabuta: July 24-29; 7 each evening; Danny Crow, Marks, evangelist; Ken Hunsberger, LaBelle Haven Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., directing the music; Charles Cavanaugh, pas-

Crossgates Church, Brandon: July 17-20; Malcolm Richard, pastor, West St. Charles Church, Boutte, La., evangelist; Dan McCraw, music director; Dave Odom, pastor.

Mrs. Bess Roger

Mrs. Lubic Rowlen

Mrs. Nemnie Sawyer

Howard Earl Seay

Mr. Malcolm Seay Lillie Mae Sewell

Mrs. Kathryn P. H

Dave Bready Mrs. Minnie Lee Bready

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Mr. James Leon Swith

Mr. Clark Simpson Mrs. Kathryn P. Hunter

Dave Bread

Mr. O. S. Siz

Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Stewart

Hopewell (Newton): July 17; Rt. 2, Little Rock; homecoming with dinner on the grounds, morning service at 11 and afternoon service at 1:30; beginning of revival which goes through July 22; Bud Winstead, Lakeland, Fla., evangelist; Leon Dunn, pastor, leading the music.

Mt. Vernon (Mississippi): July 17-20; homecoming, Sunday, 11 a.m.; dinner on the ground at noon, song service, 1:30 p.m., no Sunday night service; Mon.-Wed. 7:30 p.m.; Steve Echols, pastor, FBC, Kentwood, La., evangelist; Pat Mobley, music; Ken Trapnell, pastor.

Spring Cottage (Marion): July 17-22; Troy Sumrall; evangelist; Dallas Rayborn, leading the music; Sunday at 11 a.m. with lunch served in the fellowship hall and afternoon service at 1:30; Mon.-Fri. at 7 p.m.; Marvin Graham, pastor.

Antioch (Neshoba): July 10-15; 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. daily. Butch Revier, Bogalusa, La., evangelist: Dan Griffin, music director.

Satartia Baptist Church: homecoming; July 17; Freeman Pierce, pastor of Franklin Baptist Church, Flora, to preach; also a revival starts at 11 a.m. with night services at 7; Jim Bazemore, pastor, to lead the singing.

Arlington, Bogue Chitto: July 17-22; during week at 7:30 p.m.; John McBride, director, Cooperative Missions department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, evangelist; Terry Walker, Brookhaven, song leader; Jim Jeffreys, pastor; homecoming July 17, with services at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. and dinner on the grounds.

Elam, Coffeeville: July 17-23; at 7:30 p.m.; Gene Henderson, Columbus, evangelist; music under direction of J. B. Betts of Memphis, Tenn.; Bill Henderson, pastor.

Salem Church, Collins: July 10-15; Sunday at 11 a.m. and 6:45 p.m.; at 7:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.; Jerry Oswalt, pastor of Second Avenue Baptist Church, Laurel, evangelist; James McLemore, pastor; Barry Worrell, directing the music.

Walker Hill Church (Rankin): July 17-22; Sunday morning service at 11 o'clock and nightly services at 7:30; Sam Creel, pastor, Sunshine Church (Rankin), evangelist; Chris Nash, music director; Bernard Nail, interim pastor.

Fellowship (Lauderdale): July 17-22; at 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Bill Webb of Midway Church, Meridian, evangelist; Gary ("Slim") Cornett, Louisville, music director; Olyn F. Roberts, pastor.

Philadelphia (Webster): July 17-22; at 11 a.m. Sunday and 8 each night; Sherman Barnette, evangelist; music director, Bill Wilson; musicians, Fran Pittman and "Tootsie" Doolittle; pastor, Walter Simmons.

Main Street Church, Mendenhall: July 17-20 (Family Life Revival); J. Clark Hensley, evangelist; James Davis; singer; services Sunday 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; week days noon and 7:30 p.m.; Dewitt Mitchell, pastor.

Mt. Zion (DeSoto): July 17-20; Sunday at 11 a.m. and nights at 7 p.m.; Bill Patton, pastor, preaching; Andy Barton, directing music.

Mt. Nebo Church (Newton): July 17-20; Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed. at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Luther M. Dorr, associate professor of preaching, New Orleans Seminary, evangelist; W. T. (Sonny) Carpenter, music director, Arkadelphia Church (Lauderdale), music director; Charles Davis, pastor.

Providence, Jayess: July 17-22; Paul Wilson, pastor, Central Church, Brookhaven, evangelist; music under direction of Mickey Sandifer and Mrs. Gerry Sandifer, music director and pianist at the church; John L. Carlisle, pastor; Mon.-Fri. at 7 p.m.; homecoming on July 17, with services morning and afternoon and lunch at the church, plus special guest singers for the afternoon-Dennis and Dianne Quinn of First Church, Summit; no night service July 17.

Poplar Creek (Nations): July 24-27; at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Charlie Herrington, missionary to Honduras, evangelist; H. B. Vinson, pastor; an all-day rally to be held on the beginning date, July 24.

Calvary (Pike): July 10-15; Sunday at 11, dinner on the ground, and another service at 1:30; nightly at 7; James Sanders, evangelist; Bill Herman, music leader; Norman Crocket,

Holly Bluff (Yazoo): July 17-22; Services 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Sunday with dinner on the grounds; weeknights at 7:30 p.m. Evangelist Jimmy Furr, Calvary Church, Greenville; Music, Ronnie McCall, Seminary, Sunday, and Clayton Coulter, Yazoo City, Monday-Friday. John E. Adams,

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Mrs. Virgie S. Cargile

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Gifts of Honor and Memory May 26 - June 25

A portion of the Village View is allocated each month to a listing of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

Mrs. Lillie Adkins Mr. & Mrs. Clifton Mobley Mr. Charles Allday Mr. & Mrs. J. M. Nipper Mr. & Mrs. Jerry B. Moore & Family Mr. Coleman Bagwell Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Smith Mrs. Marie Bailey
Mr. & Mrs. John T. Keeton, Jr. Mr. James I. Barefoot Mr. & Mrs. Leroy Thos Mrs. Albena Bariola Mrs. Lora Mitchell Mr. M. B. McCarty dr. Vencie W. Barr Linnie Thornton Nolan & Zelma Smith

Mrs. Elsie T. Barwick Mr. & Mrs. James B. Sykes, Jr. L. F. Stephens, Jr. Mr. & Mrs. B. E. Gandy Farmers Home Administr Mr. & Mrs. W. H. Merrell Mrs. J. O. Broome & Children Dorcas Sunday School, Braxton Mr. & Mrs. W. J. Sharp Mr. J. C. Bedford First Baptist Church, Bude Miss Louise Beanett Mrs. Leslie S. Turner Mrs. Inez Berry
Mrs. Clifton Mobiey
Mrs. Bertha Blaylock
Yale Streeet Baptist Church,
Cleveland
Mr. T. V. Blaylock
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Vacation Dates: July 22 - August 7

All Village young people/children are invited into private homes throughout Mississippi for this two-week vacation. If you would be willing to open your home to one of our young people, please contact: Claire Nowlin

Box 11308 Jackson, MS 39213 Dear Friends:

We are so very pleased at this time to offer to young folk in our care the opportunity of spending time in a private home situation. I would want you to be mindful of the fact that it is this home/family environment that serves as a beautiful model for our young people; I would also want you to know that it is not the activities or the surroundings that have the greatest impact on their lives. In essence—it is the attitude of love and acceptance that means so very much. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely. Claire Nowlin

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Mr. & Mrs. Mike Beattie Mr. & Mrs. H. L. Williams Mr. Sterling Sexton Mr. & Mrs. Franklin Rayburn Mr. & Mrs. Glenn A. Doty, III Mr. & Mrs. Frank P. Thompson Mrs. Mayme Snipes Mrs. Adelia Y. Fahnestock

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Lawrence Davidson and two of his staff at Grenada Clothing Outlet, loaded the Village van with new clothing, as a gift from Mr. Davidson.

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U. S. pressure can influence Romania, says Baptist leader

WASHINGTON (EP)—When Presient Reagan cuts off the special trading status for Romania, there will be a wave of religious persecution in the country, a prominent Romanian Baptist leader who recently emigrated to the U.S. told Religious News Service.

But the Baptist leader, Ioan Teo-dosiu, said he nonetheless favors the planned U.S. action against Romania because he believes it would "in the long run" force the Eastern bloc nation to ease up on repression against religious and human rights groups. In an interview in which he spoke

through an interpreter, Teodosiu cited his own case as an example of how U.S. pressure can influence Romania as well as other nation behind the iron curtain. "I would not be here if not for the prayers and intervention of U.S. groups," he said.

As spokesman for the dissident Romanian Christian Committee, Teodosiu was imprisoned from December, 1981, to March, 1982, for transmitting information to religious rights groups in the West about religi-

ous repression in Ron ania.

According to the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, a congressional group which monitors compliance with the Helsinki human rights accords, he was released from prison and allowed to emigrate on March 16 "thanks to vigorous Western intercession."

Pressure on Romania generated by a number of religious; rights groups, most of them evang lical Christian, took the form of put ic outcries and letters and telephone calls to the

Romanian embassy here. Also contacting the embassy on behalf of Mr. Teodosiu were government officials, including Sens. Mark Hatfield (R-OR) and Jesse Helms (R-NC).

Children quickly comprehend when parents exercise selfish instead of responsible discipline. This insight was put most succinctly by the boy who asked his mother, "Why must I always take a nap when you're tired?"

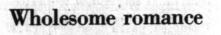
Denomination takes step toward ordaining gays

PITTSBURGH (EP)—The United Church of Christ has accepted a report that says the homosexuality of a candidate for ordination should not be a ground for refusing to admit that person into the church's ministry.

The report, overwhelmingly accepted in a show of hands at the biennial General Synod, which closed June 28, says a person's "sexual orientation is not a moral issue, but that sexual behavior does have moral significance."

In the debate, the synod refused to consider another statement on Christian marriage and family life that said any sexual union outside marriage 'denies God's created order." Proponents of that resolution included a group called United Church People for Biblical Witness, formed in 1978 by those urging the denomination to turn toward more traditional views of sexuality and marriage.

The report accepted in Pittsburgh said the synod believes "present knowledge about the bases of sexual orientation and behavior is incomplete. The ethical issues surrounding the rightfulness or wrongfulness of various forms of sexual expression and embodiment are still being debated within the United Church of Christ."



CHICAGO (EP)-Some of the romance novels which account for half of all paperback sales in the U.S. are turning decidedly chaste with the release this summer of Zondervan Corp.'s "Serenade" romances.

Such wholesome but un-sanctimonious titles as On Wings of Love, Love's Sweet Promise, and Fountain of Love, Zondervan hopes, will provide an inspirational alternative to their steamy counterparts which rely on explicit sex for popular-



Main Street Church, Hattiesburg, held a "note burning" celebration June 19. The note on the new auditorium, which was built in 1968, was paid off. Shown burning the note are, left to right, I. L. Furr, Jr., chairman of the deacons; Robert Touchstone, Sr., trustee and church treasurer for 36 years; R. Fred Selby, pastor; and John E. Barnes,



Groundbreaking ceremonies for First Church, Ridgeland were held May 17. The 200,000 square foot sanctuary; office suite, and choral room combination is being constructed by Campbell Construction Company. Expected completion date is Easter, 1984. Pictured first row (I-r): Mrs. Shirley Byrd, building committee member; Mrs. Carolyn Prouty, building committee member; Mrs. Lillie Mae Harvey, charter member; Mrs. Lucille Clements, charter member; Mrs. Horace Ross, building committee member. Second row (I-r): Danny Brock, minister of music and youth; Alvin C. Doyle, minister of education and administration; N. L. Harvey, charter member; Ed Griffin, pastor; and Harold Butler, building committee member. Not pictured is Bob Mahaffey, building committee member.



Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stubblefield recently celebrated their tenth anniversary in the pastorate at Ecru Church, Pontotoc Association. A certificate was presented to the Stubblefields by James W. Speck, left, chairman of the deacons, and the Stubblefields were honored with a reception, and a love offering following the evening worship service.

A reunion is set for July 30 for the alumni of the Jones County Junior College Baptist Student Union. It will take place at the BSU center 2-5 p.m. For a nursery, call 447-3973 before July 20.

A new roof for the church will be the object of a hamburger supper at Union Baptist Church, Brandon, July 16. Proceeds from the supper will go to-ward supplying the new roof and other building improvements, according to Pastor Perry Simpson. Union Baptist Church is located three miles north of Puckett on Highway 13.

Sunflower County Baptist Association will have a hymn-sing Saturday. July 16, at Roundaway Baptist Church, north of Indianola, at 7 p.m., with supper at the church at 6:30 p.m. Each church will have a part on the program. The music committee has asked every family to bring some "finger food." The host church willprovide the beverage.

Space available at Gulfshore

Several of the Gulfshore Baptist Assembly summer conferences still have space available for participation, including sessions for training Sunday School and Church Training leaders, and for senior adults.

The sessions with openings are the Sunday School Leadership Conferences on July 25-27, July 28-30, and Aug. 1-3; the Church Training leadership Conference, Aug. 10-13; and the enior Adult Conclave, Aug. 18-20.

Contact Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Henderson Point, Pass Christian. Miss., 39571, for more information.

(NOTE: Additional homecomings are listed in the "Revival Dates" column, in combination with revival

Liberty Hill Church (Alcorn): homecoming July 17.

Love Joy Church (Alcorn): homecoming July 24.

First Church, Eudora: homecoming; July 17; Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.; worship service at 11 a.m. to include special music, congregational singing, a testimony by Ervin Brown, director of missions for Northwest **Baptist Association and former pastor** of the church, and message by the pastor, Wayne Edwards; a pot-luck old-fashioned "dinner on the ground" at noon; that afternoon, more singing and a devotion led by Lewis Ferrell, former interim pastor of the church.

Bible Book

Lord" (Jeremiah 9:23-24 NASV).

The practice of wisdom

Devotional .

What is eternal life?

By Barry Hardy, minister of education,

First Baptist Church, Crystal Springs

thought might be "heaven" or "living forever." Those are certainly elements of

eternal life. More careful thought might cause you to say, "This is the quality of

This would include "living forever."

Suppose someone were to ask you this question. What is eternal life? Your first

the sky:" It is here and now . . . knowing (lod.

Bible does say that as Christians we are to do Bible reading, praying, witnessing, worshiping, and fellowshiping. These can be done in emptiness, however, if our

How do you get to know a person? Obviously, you talk, listen, and spend time

with that person. Most of us spend time with the people we love the most-our

families and our closest friends. Can you count God as your family and as your

How important is it for us to know God? "Thus says the Lord, 'Let not a wise

man boast of his wisdom, and let not the mighty man boast of his might, let not a

rich man boast of his riches; but let him who boasts boast of this, that he

understands and knows Me, that I am the Lord who exercises loving-kindness,

justice, and righteousness on earth; for I delight in these things,' declares the

When you and I can boast of our knowledge of God, the acts and performances

closest friend, according to the amount of time you spend with him?

required of us as Christians will become natural and joyous.

relationship with God is shoved down to the end of the list.

life when one has accepted Jesus Christ as personal Savior."

Let's see what scripture tells us about eternal life. Jesus

said, "And this is eternal life, that they may know thee, the

only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent" (John

17:3 NASV). This definition is a great deal more than "pie in

As Christians, and particularly as Baptis , we hear and see a lot about performance. We live in a performance oriented society. Many of us are evaluated in our jobs, our homes, and

our churches, based on our performance of certain tasks. The

By Harry L. Lucenay, pastor Temple, Hattiesburg Proverbs 16:1-22:1b

Proverbs 16-22 contain a beautiful collection of the ingredients necessary for the practice of wisdom. These proverbs are composed primarily of two lines but more often than not the idea in the second line is similar to or an extension of the idea in the first line. The subject treated are numerous, so this study will be limited to four major

Proper speech (16:3324)—The thoughts of the mind con it the outward expression of the lips, and make it eloquent and persuasive. Courteous and pleasant speech enhances the effectiveness of the wise, making the meaning of his words clear so as to increase learning. These pleasant words are of a comforting and soothing nature and favorably compared to the honeycomb. This comparison is common in all languages through history for the words of kindness always bring strength and healing to the bones of the

Proverbs 18:7-8, 21 present the power of proper and improper speech. The Arab says, "Silence is the covering of the stupid." Unfortunately, the fool all too frequently lets the doors of his mouth blow open with the hot winds of misinformation only to bring destruction on himself and others. Speech is the index of one's mind. With the tongue men may curse and break human hearts, destroy reputations, promote discord and strife, and set families, communities and nations at war with it. Or with the tongue men can bless and communicate happiness, dispel sorrow, remove despair, cheer the fainthearted, inspire the discouraged, and say scores of other things to uplife mankind. Socrates said, "Speak that I may see thee."

Proper relationships (17:5, 15, 23)—Our compassionate Christ taught that the care of the poor is a way of honoring God (Matthew 25:31-46). Delight in other's misfortunes, even those of enemies, is a most detestable form of selfishness and malice (Proverbs 24:17). Perhaps the church of the Bible Belt needs to reevaluate her definition of the poor, as well as her approach to ministry with the poor. There is a difference between a cold hand out and a

compassionate helping hand.

Integrity in judgment is encouraged in verses 15 and 23. It matters little whether or not the case is in the courtrooms, classroom, churchroom, or closet, men wrestle with honesty when money or relationships cloud the purity of the picture. God calls for right to stand victor over wrong in the decisions of his people.

Proper work (19:24; 20:4, 13)-The author sarcastically presents a man who is so lazy he goes to sleep while trying to get food from the table to his mouth (v. 24). This same sluggard never works when he is supposed to; yet he looks for a crop (20:4). He knows what he wants; yet he lacks the energy and planning to work for it.

In the face of laziness, the Proverbs encourage man to rise early and go to work (20:13). Paul tells the Christians at Thessalonica, "If anyone will not work, neither let him eat" (I Thessalonians 3:10). Today some people do not work because they cannot find work or cannot work. The people of God have always been encouraged to assist these poor. Others are too lazy to work and Paul's admonition still stands true. May God grant Christians the wisdom to know the difference.

Prayer concern (21:3, 13)—God is not delighted with cash-filled collection plates passed by pompous pretenders. He is not impressed with the latest clothing fads, for he does not look for labels, but for the condition of the heart. The wise man of God ponders the Word of God and enters his world to do good, to understand the misunderstood, to overlook the mistakes of the mistaken, to love the unloved and to forgive the unforgiven. For in so doing, he compassionately responds to the cries of the poor with

godly judgment. This lesson encourages the man of God to put feet to his faith. When he walks in faith, several characteristics will surface: his speech will reflect his membership in the family of God, his compassionate vision will assist him in caring for the needy, his sense of integrity will guide him to seek justice and practice mercy. Finally, his work ethic will guide to his best, for he works for God, not man (Ephesians 6:5-6).

Evangelists meet

AMSTERDAM (EP)-The first International Conference for Itinerant Evangelists ever held includes 158 speakers from 41 countries.

Known as Amsterdam 83 and sponsored by evangelist Billy Graham, the conference will provide training for 3,500 traveling evangelists from 140 countries, about 70 percent of them from developing (Third World) nations. It is being held July 12-21, at the RAI Congress Center in Amsterdam.

Uniform

Hannah: a promise kept

By Clarence H. Cutrell, Jackson I Samuel 1:1-2:10

The story of Hannah, Elkanah, and Samuel introduces a refreshing chapter in the life of Israel. The period of the judges, when the spiritual life of Israel was at an all-time low, was drawing to a close. Samuel was a judge, but he was also a prophet who brought a new sense of unification to the nation. How this came about is a story so simple that it could happen at any point in time, in any humble Christian heart, in any godly home.

1. An encumbered woman prayed to God. It is something of a turn-about on the part of society that the barrenness of womb, the source of Hannah's burden and prayers, is accepted by many as a blessing and is sought after as earnestly as Hannah prayed for a child. At the same time, many a barren young wife carries such a tearful longing in her soul that little else can bring true and lasting joy until at long last there comes the blessed awareness that she is to bear a child.

But in Hannah's day an empty womb was looked upon as something of a curse from God and a reflection upon the individual as one lacking in spiritual graces. In addition to this bleak fact, Peninnah, the other wife of Elkanah, who had borne children, never missed an occasion to deride, mock, and discredit the unfortunate Hannah.

Increasing her unhappiness was the cutting knowledge that not even her husband understood her need and sought to console her. He even insisted that he was worth more to her than ten sons. If Elkanah could have perceived the truth, he would have been on his knees with his wife just as earnestly petitioning the Lord for a son. For with the birth of each son this godly mother's love for her husband would have increased ten-fold. (It is a sad commentary upon the sinfulness of mankind that this is not always the case.) It should be said to Elkanah's credit that following the birth of Samuel he did join Hannah in her prayers and high purposes for Samuel.

Unable to find any encouragement from her husband or any other human source, Hannah felt that her only hope was in God. She took her burdened heart to him and there "made her every petition known." She was not the first nor by any means the last to be driven by the desperate straits of life to bow the knee and seek the face of God in earnest prayer. There is wise and dependable instruction in the old southern spiritual, "When the world withholds . . . take your burden to the Lord and leave it there.

2. An effectual God heard and granted her desire. James says, "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." Perhaps the basic principle back of this is the fact that the prayer is being directed to an effectual, fervent heavenly Father who is always available and whose ear is always open to the cries of his children. The varying degrees of failure in the lives of Christians perhaps is found no more in overt sins than in the statement, "Ye have not because ye ask-not."

Hannah did ask. The fervency of her prayer is attested to by the fact that she was so agitated, her lips moving but making no sound, that even the priest, Eli, thought she was drunken. She asked of God that which was apparently impossible in the human realm. But this soul-burden woman had great faith and evidently believed that nothing was too difficult for her God. For after Eli perceived the truth, he blessed Hannah, praying that God would grant her petition. Then she 'went her way, and did eat, and her countenance was no more sad.' She discovered by experience a truth later set down in Hebrews: "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." To her, Samuel (asked of God) was as real in her heart then as he was a year later in her bosom.

3. An exuberant woman expressed her joyful gratitude and kept her vow. What a great difference there is between the vow of Jephthah and this one of Hannah. Hers was a noble, spiritinduced promise, which included the happiness and usefulness of every one involved as well as the glory of God and fulfillment of his purposes. The keeping of Jephthah's vow, on the other hand, brought no good to any one or any cause, brought an early death to his daughter, brought remorse and a broken heart which the father carried

Fulfilling her promise was for Hannah one of the sources of her joy. Unlike many hapless souls who finding themselves in the midst of some of life's difficulties utter vain promises to God for deliverance, only to promptly forget them when skies are bright again, Hannah discovered one of the deepest fulfillments of her life in keeping her vow. Her paean of praise is found in I Sam. 2:1-10. Please read

This above all: to thine own self be true. And it must follow as the night the day, Thou canst not then be false to any man.-William Shakespeare.

Life and Work

By Larry W. Fields, pastor, Harrisburg, Tupelo Psalm 1:1-6; Proverbs 14:5, 12, 21; 16:8; Micah 6:8

The National Bureau of Standards is a federal agency in the Department of Commerce that establishes accurate measurement standards for science, industry, and commerce. All measurements made in the United States depend upon national standards kept at the bureau.

The Bible serves as our standard for righteous living. Old Testament writers were convinced that God had provided fixed guidelines according to his law. To live by these principles would lead to prosperity and happiness. To reject them was to invite disaster. The Bible provides clear instruction concerning the ideal man who will live justly and righteously under God.

I. The ideal man will make God's law his standard (Psalm 1:1-6)

This psalm serves as a prologue to the Psalter. Many scholars believe Jesus used this passage as the background for his Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7).

The Kingdom man will avoid the downward progression of sin. He will watch his direction and ignore advice from evil men. He will protect his leisure time and not loiter with habitual sinners. He will carefully select his friends and refuse to sit with those who mock and scorn God.

His heart is elsewhere. His delight is in careful study and meditation on God's word. As a result he will be like a tree transplanted from the arid desert to the rich soil near a life-giving stream of water. The result will be positive growth and a beautiful har-

The ungodly have no such stability. They are blown about like the worthless chaff. Because of their rootlessness and their fruitlessness, they have no future value. It is the righteous man, who through obedience and faith, will gain the approval of God. He will consistently follow God's standards. II. The ideal man will follow the prac-

tical guidelines of scripture. (Proverbs 14:5, 12, 21, 16:8). He is a man who speaks words of

truth. He is a person of honesty and integrity. He can be trusted in or out of the courtroom (14:5).

He seeks the proper direction in life and does not choose a path that will lead to destruction (14:12). From a New Testament perspective, followers of Christ were called people of "The Way." Jesus himself said, "I am the way." The ideal man will follow God's

He will also demonstrate kindness to his neighbor and help those in need (14:21). God will reward gracious acts toward those less fortunate. To spite one's neighbor is to sin against God. "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself" (Leviticus 19:18).

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Just a beneator for a first

Living justly

The ideal man will not equate happiness and success with wealth. God's standard teaches that spiritual wealth is superior to material wealth (16:7). The person who makes a bare living but walks with God and has his mind at peace is more successful than the one who piles up millions of dollars and sacrifices his conscience to do so. Righteousness will always rank above riches in the life of a Kingdom man. III. The ideal man takes seriously

God's demand for justice (Micah 6:8).

In this passage God is speaking through his prophet Micah and he has a controversy with his people. In modern language we could say God has filed a lawsuit against his people because righteousness was lacking. They may have felt "not guilty" because they had been going through the motions of worship. But God expects far more than outward conduct. There must be inward character.

In response to the rhetorical question, "What does God require of us?," the prophet gives a three-fold answer.

They were to be (1) just (fair) and (2) merciful to others and (3) walk humbly before God. The first two points relate to the last six commandments concerning man's relationship to man. The last imperative requiring humility relates to the first four commandments concerning man's relationship to God. God cannot do much with a man who thinks more of himself than he does of God.

One of the greatest needs today is for God's people to get back to righteous living before a Holy God.

Off the Record

LeRoy: "Why do you say Jerry Don is noted for his after-dinner speak-

Billy: "He always manages to be speaking on the telephone when the waiter brings the check for the meal."

A man who was a golfing bug mar-ried a woman who loved to attend auction sales. And both talked in their sleep. One night the husband yelled: "Fore!"

The wife promptly shouted, "Four